

The FORUM

Venturing, Sea Scouting and Exploring Newsletter since 2003
May 2018 Issue

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The Current FORUM Newsletter:

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/current_forum.php

The FORUM Back Issues

http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/venturing_archive.htm

Large Crews

http://minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/documents/FORUM-Crew_27-Large_Crews_articles.pdf

UPDATED March Crew 27 Large Crew Series (Articles on Large Crew Operations)

The FORUM Attachments Central Region

None

The FORUM Attachments National

<http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/regions/NAT-0518.zip>

Commissioner

Commissioner_Tools_Troubleshooting Guide

Commissioner-Service-to-Exploring-FAQs

Sea Scouting Info:

Sea Scout Advancement Requirements

Sea Scout Eligibility for Venturing Awards and Information On other Awards

Sea Scout Liability Insurance for Watercraft

Sea Scout New Century Universal Uniform

Sea Scout Revised Safe Boating and Sailing Standards

Sea Scout Standard Operating Procedures 2017

Sea Scout The Value of Sea Scouts

Sea Scout Power Point—State of Sea Scouts Oct 2017

Sea Scout Strategic Plan-SMART

Venturing Info:

Venturing Awards and Recognitions

Venturing Board of Review Guide

Venturing Ethical Controversies

Venturing Goal Setting Time Management for Venturing Crews

Venturing Mentoring for Venturing Crews Facilitator Guide

Venturing Standard Operating Procedures (Current

Venturing Terms Lets get it Right

Venturing Venturing FAQ

The FORUM Attachments Northeast Region

<http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/regions/NER-0518.zip>

NER-World Scout Jamboree

The FORUM Attachments Southern Region

<http://www.minsi-southmountain.com/newsletters/regions/SR-0418.zip>

The FORUM Attachments Western Region

No Attachments

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Central Region Area 3 Sea Scout Rendezvous

30
\$

May 25th - May 28th 2018
Lake Springfield, Camp Illinek

Fri - Mon

Memorial Day Weekend | 6610 Iron Bridge Road
Chatham, IL 62629

FUN &
FOOD

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cware@wordenmar om 217-841-0445

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18-inch decal	\$ 17.00 each
12-inch magnetic sign	\$ 15.00

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wsj2019.us/faq/



ARE YOU READY FOR THE ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME?

The World Scout Jamboree is about Friendship, Fun, and Adventure. If you like to make friends, learn, and experience new things, this is the place for you! With 50,000 Scouts from 169 countries living side-by-side, you'll participate in a global community and will meet amazing people faster than you can imagine. Don't miss what will surely be the largest Scout celebration in the world!



*Denotes pricing for Northeast, Central, and Southern Regions



Announcement 2018-2019 National Sea Scout Boatswain



The National Sea Scout Support Committee announces the selection of **Jack Otto of Houston, Texas** as the 2018-2019 National Sea Scout Boatswain. His term of office will be from June 1, 2018 through May 31, 2019. He is a member of Ship 468, chartered by the St. Andrews Episcopal Church, of the Bay Area Council, Galveston, Texas.

Jack will be the youth representative for Sea Scouts across the United States of America. He will report to the National Commodore and the National Director of Sea Scouts. He will serve as the liaison to the Regional Boatswains and all other youth leaders in Sea Scouting.

Jack is an Able Scout, working on his Quartermaster. During his time as a Sea Scout, he has served as his ship's Boatswain, and the Southern Region Area 3 Boatswain Mate. He has attended SEAL and NYLT, as well as serving on the staff of NYLT.

He has been recipient of the American Legion Award twice, is on his churches' teen leader council and currently planning the Confirmation Retreat for his church. Away from Sea Scouting, he runs on the cross-country team and takes part in the French and Ultimate Frisbee clubs. He works to better his school, helping with fundraisers and helping with fish camp or anything they need help for.

Jack aspires to get a degree in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering and plans to apply to Webb Institute, A&M, USNA, USCGA, University of New Orleans, and University of Michigan. He wants to do the most he can for Sea Scouts and being the National Boatswain, he feels it is the best possible way for him to accomplish it.

He sees the Sea Scouting program as strong and it teaches youth more leadership and life skills than any other program. He wants to expand the outreach that this organization has. Sea Scouts has changed his life and he wants to let it change other's lives. He also wants to eliminate that pesky question, "What is Sea Scouts?" He wants Sea Scouts to be known nationwide, by old and young. He also would like to have a greater new ship retention rate and provide them with the appropriate resources for success.

He cares way too much about Sea Scouts and has dedicated himself to making everyone he knows to be more aware of Sea Scouting and will try his best to get everyone who is eligible to join. Jack is currently in the process of creating a ship in Freeport, TX and has a prospect for another ship in Texas City, TX. The Freeport ship already has a skipper and a boat lined up, they have meetings with potential sponsors and already have potential youth.

Join us in congratulating and assisting Jack to reach his goals to grow Sea Scouting as the 2018-2019 National Sea Scout Boatswain!

The Value of the Sea Scouting program to the Council and its other Scouting Units

Sea Scouting is a specialized program that might not warrant much of your attention at first glance. Further examination will reveal just how much value a Sea Scout unit can add to your Council. Around the country, Sea Scouts contribute to Councils in a variety of ways. Check out the link below on the Sea Scout Website and learn more: <https://seascout.org/download/best-practice-04-the-value-of-sea-scouting/?wpdmdl=21358>

Included in FORUM National Attachments

Introducing the Best Practice Library

By Sea Scouts, BSA

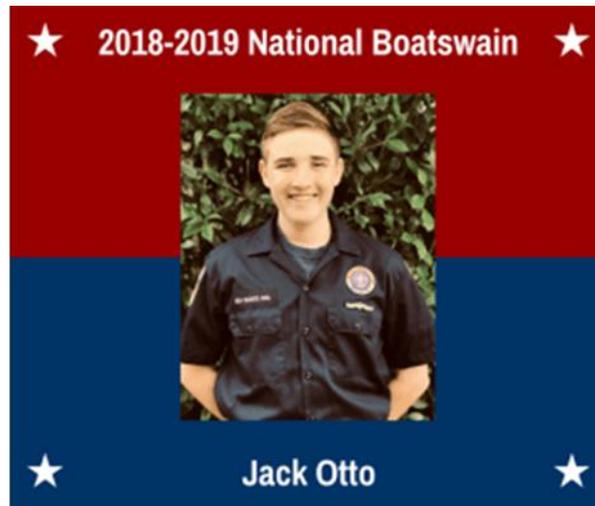


Across the county there are successful ships that deliver on Sea Scouting's promise of high adventure in, on, around, and under the water. Each ship is unique. Each ship has its own strengths and weaknesses. In order to make every ship more successful, a Best Practice Library has been created to share these strengths. The first four best practices are now available. They focus on getting Council Support at the ship level.

Check out them out and consider what your ship can contribute. Send your best practice to us at <https://seascout.org/> so it can be added to the library.

Announcing the 2018-2019 National Boatswain

by Sea Scouts, BSA



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Keith Christopher to Retire After 44 Years With BSA

By Sea Scouts, BSA



After a career spanning nearly five decades, five local councils, and 13 years at the National Service Center, Keith Christopher will retire from the Boy Scouts of America after 44 years of service effective June 1, 2018.

Keith, who currently serves as department manager of the Council Services Department in the National Adventures Group as well as the national director of Sea Scouts BSA, started his Scouting career as a district executive with Mecklenburg County Council in Charlotte, North Carolina. He then made stops as a district executive – multiple person at Birmingham Area Council in Birmingham, Alabama; as field director and development director at Tennessee Valley Council in Huntsville, Alabama; as the Scout executive at Suwannee River Area Council in Tallahassee, Florida; and as the director of support services and director of finance at Southeast Louisiana Council in New Orleans.

In July 2005, Keith joined the National Service Center, where he has served in a number of different roles with a singular purpose: providing unparalleled service to local councils as they work to deliver the Scouting program to millions of youth across the country. This has included oversight of the Council Services Department; the Outdoor Programs/ Properties Team; Facilities, Administration Operations, and Support Services Team; Shared Services Team; Commissioner Service and Council/District Operations Team; and more.

“If we were to seek a model for extraordinary work ethic and consummate professionalism, we should begin our search with Keith Christopher,” said John Green, Group Director of the National Adventures Group.

Report to the Nation

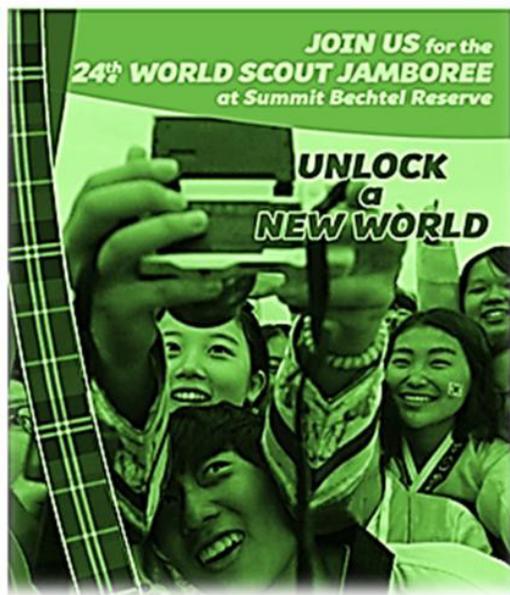
In addition to his roles with the Council Services Department and Sea Scouts, Keith has served as the Report to the Nation delegation director for 10 years. In this role, he helped select the delegates, prepared them for a whirlwind week in Washington, D.C., and made travel arrangements. He spent countless hours coordinating visits with cabinet secretaries and U.S. senators.

Honoring Keith A retirement celebration in Keith’s honor will be held during this year’s National Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 23 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Dallas. If you are attending NAM and would like to attend, please register online here. A reception for national employees also will be held at the National Service Center on Wednesday, May 30 from 2-3:30 p.m. in Conference Rooms 102-103.

If you would like to make a gift donation, please make your check payable to “Boy Scouts of America” and send to the address below. Mark the envelope **PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL** and, on the memo line, indicate “Christopher’s Retirement Gift.” For those who would like to contribute a letter or photograph for Keith’s memory book, please send all submissions to Natasha Leahey-Sayles via email or to: natasha.leahey@scouting.org Boy Scouts of America S280, 1325 W. Walnut Hill Lane, Irving TX 75038.



VENTURERS



JOIN THE JAMBOREE VENTURING CREW FROM AREA 2!

The 24th World Scout Jamboree will be hosted by the three nations of North America – Mexico, Canada, and the United States at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia from July 21 to August 2, 2019.

UNLOCK A NEW WORLD, for young people ages 14 to 17 years from all 166 National Scout Organizations.

The BSA contingent will include 10,000 people — the largest contingent the BSA has ever sent to a World Jamboree. 80 % of the participants will come from over 160 countries, with co-ed units just like Crews!

The World Scout Jamboree has special programs for participants to learn about different cultures, sustainability, peace and community service. These activities are intended to give participants an opportunity to learn new things and to build new friendships.

The focus is more on meeting people from different cultures and countries than doing high-adventure activities. Sure, you will have plenty of opportunities to zip-line, kayak, and ride mountain bikes, but you will also have many opportunities to meet new friends and learn what Scouting and life is like in other countries.

To be eligible to be a Venturing youth participant at the 24th World Scout Jamboree

- you must be born between **22 July 2001 and 21 July 2005 (no exceptions to this)**.
- If you are **older** on the given dates of the Jamboree, you may be able to apply to become member of the **International Service Team**.
- The fee for participants and leaders for contingent crews in the Northeast Region will be **\$ 2,500 for Venturing Youth and Leaders** (includes travel from a designated hub) and **\$ 1,800 for ISTs** (no travel included).

There is an early applicant discount: applicants who submit a \$250 deposit between November 1, 2017 and January 31, 2018, and make all payments on time will have a \$100 discount applied to their last payment.

Go to <https://wsj2019.us> for information on registration and programs

Jamboree units will be set up within the 27 Areas of the BSA, and leader will be recruited by the area committees. Our council is part of Area 2 of the Northeast Region, serving the following councils: Connecticut Rivers Council, Greenwich Council, Housatonic Council, Connecticut Yankee Council, Western Massachusettes Council, Rip Van Winkle Council, Hudson Valley Council, Westchester Putnam Council, Greater New York Councils, Theodore Roosevelt Council, and Suffolk County Council. The Crew will be formed from Venturers in Area 2.

CONTACT YOUR COUNCIL SERVICE CENTER or email your council WSJ Chair for updates or more information.

Council staff contact : **Matt Conlon** Matthew.Conlon@scouting.org

Council WSJ Chair: **Eric Anderson** EEA-BSA@optonline.net

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BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®
PATRIOTS' PATH COUNCIL



AdVenturee 2018!

When: May 4 - 6, 2018

Where: Camp Somers, Mount Allamuchy Scout Reservation, 750 Waterloo Road, Stanhope

Who: Any registered Venturer, Adult leader or Venturing aged Boy Scout (14+)

What: The AdVenturee is a get together for Venturers held May 4th – 6th at Mount Allamuchy Scout Reservation (Camp Somers). Scouts from both within Patriots' Path Council and outside councils are welcome. The weekend will be full of fun activities, meeting other Venturers, and even completing requirements for the Ranger Award and Discovery, Pathfinder and Summit Venturing awards.

Activities: ATV, Pistol Shooting, COPE, Archery, Shotgun, Mountain Biking, Night-time Rock Wall Climbing, Movies, Star Gazing and more.

Cost: \$45 per person - includes Friday cracker barrel, Saturday breakfast & dinner and Sunday breakfast. Fee also includes a tent site and all activities. Saturday lunch can be purchased from the camp snack bar or made in site by your unit. Cabin space is available at an additional \$5 per person.

Due to the popularity of the ATV program and the limited number of ATVs, they will be offered to youth participants based on earliest registration.

Questions?

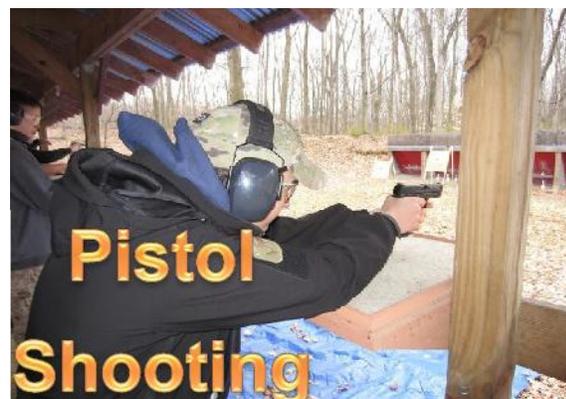
Sam Brothman, Vice President of Program: at 201-874-0223 or sambrothman@yahoo.com

Chris Rozek, President: at 862-266-1881 or christopher.rozek@gmail.com

Event Advisor: Mark Rozek, ppcventuringexploring@gmail.com

Charlean Mahon, District Executive at 973-524-4459 or charlean.mahon@scouting.org

Registration: <https://ppcsa.org/> (click on the Council Calendar link and navigate to the date)



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Council Sea Scout Leadership Awards

by Southern Region Commodore



Capitol Area Council Ship 911, SSS Response, at the awards ceremony

Seldom do I see Sea Scouts performing in the company of Boy Scouts. However, a few Sea Scouts from Capitol Area Council were recognized for outstanding leadership – in front of over 200 Scouters from Troops, Venturing Crews, and Explorers. At the Capitol Area Council Leadership reception held at the local Scouting center, two Sea Scouts and one adult were awarded the Council's Sea Scout Leadership Award – Heidi Schuttger (Ship 681), Jack Walker (Ship 911), and Linda Callaway (Ship 911). I had the privilege to serve as their escort in the ceremony, as well as to present them to the audience. Additionally, Sea Scouts from around the council came to celebrate their excellence. Furthermore, all of the council leaders and experienced Scouters got to see Sea Scouts in action, and I'm sure they now know the potential leadership enriching opportunities of Sea Scouting.

By Ryan Trefny, SR A3 Boatswain

Southern Region Boatswain for 2018-2019

by Southern Region Commodore



Please welcome Ryan Trefny, Southern Region Boatswain for the 2018-2019 term. Ryan will take over from current Regional Boatswain Savannah Cushman on June 1st.

Ryan is an Eagle Scout, a Quartermaster and a SEAL graduate who is presently serving as Southern Region Area 3 Boatswain. He is from Capitol Area Council Ship 911, SSS Response, which was just named to the National Flagship Fleet for the fourth consecutive year. As Regional Boatswain, Ryan will lead the regional quarterdeck and will represent Sea Scouts as a member of the Southern Region Board. Ryan has been very effective as Area Boatswain and has a lot of great ideas for how to grow and strengthen Sea Scouts in Southern Region.

Regional Boatswain Savannah Cushman says “Ryan has been an outstanding Area 3 Boatswain within the Southern Region. It is truly an honor to attend events he has hosted such as Sea Scout Academy. I can still recall the time the time his Quarterdeck Jack Otto (now our new National Boatswain) and Ryan Shaw introduced themselves. The moment I got to Star Base Galveston I immediately felt a part of the team. There was never a moment I was disappointed on how you conducted such a event. Ryan, you have grown within the years I’ve know you and I couldn’t be more proud.”

Spring Recruiting

Dear Shipmates,

At the Long Beach Seabadge course in March, the Focus on Youth presentation had local Sea Scouts sharing what they enjoy about being Sea Scouts. One Scout stressed how “get on the water” is the core of our program. Getting on any boat is an adventure that our youth (and volunteers) love.

It is springtime, which means there are opening day activities across the Western Region. Many Ships are using opening day parades and celebrations as recruiting events. This time of year can also be used to help recruit new volunteers.

The Grand Canyon Council tried a very innovative strategy for recruiting volunteers for new Sea Scout Ships: they sent out a survey to existing

Boy Scout members asking who wanted to help with new Ships, from being Skippers, Mates, Unit Commissioners, Charter Partners, and other roles

Boy Scout Councils interested in recruiting volunteers for new or existing Sea Scout Ships can try similar campaigns. Here is a [sample survey as a Google Form](#) that can be used as a template. As with any volunteer position, it is helpful to give a new Mate or Commissioner a job description. Below are samples for brainstorming on the volunteer needs of your Ship:



Advancement Mate – A volunteer to help the Sea Scouts plan the Advancement in the Sea Scout Manual they want to achieve on a monthly basis. The Advancement Mate helps Sea Scouts set goals, make plans, and find instructors for Sea Scout Advancement.

Membership Mate – A volunteer to help create a recruiting plan with the Sea Scouts. The Membership Mate will help identify community events for Sea Scout exhibits, plan open houses with the Sea Scouts, prepare press releases for recruiting opportunities, communicate with the Boy Scout Council, and attend District meetings to promote Sea Scout activities.

Engineering Mate – A volunteer knowledgeable about marine engines. The Engineering Mate will work with Sea Scouts, teach them diesel engine maintenance, and help Sea Scouts earn rank advancement related to marine engineering.

Navigation Mate – A volunteer knowledgeable of navigation, who can help teach Sea Scouts how to plot courses, determine their position underway, operate a GPS, learn celestial navigation, dead reckoning, and determine latitude and longitude.

An informational meeting for interested volunteers can be held about the local Sea Scout Ships and include training resources for volunteers available on [My.Scouting.Org](#).

Every successful Sea Scout Ship has dedicated Skippers and Mates. Many Skippers have expressed they need more volunteers. If your council would like help in planning a volunteer recruiting campaign, please contact me.

Fair winds,
Joshua Gilliland
Western Region Commodore
National Sea Scout Support Committee

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Regatta Registration

The 70th Old Salts' Regatta is April 27-29 at Coast Guard Island. Be sure to register for this special anniversary regatta.



Ancient Mariner Regatta is May 25-28 at California Maritime Academy. Register now for one of the largest Sea Scout events in the country.



Introducing the Best Practice Library on SeaScout.org



Across the country there are successful ships that deliver on Sea Scouting's promise of high adventure in, on, around, and under the water. Each ship is unique. Each ship has its own strengths and weaknesses. In order to make every ship more successful, a Best Practice Library has been created to share these strengths. The first four best practices are now available. They focus on getting Council Support at the ship level.

Link <https://seascout.org/best-practice-library/>

Check them out and consider what your ship can contribute. Send your best practice to us at communications@seascout.org so it can be added to the library.

State List of Recreational Waterways



The Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) maintains a list of recreational waterways by state on www.CorpsLakes.us. Just click on the state you are interested in to see where you can get on the water. There is also a USACE Recreation Brochure located on the right hand side of the website that can be downloaded for the entire country or individual states.

Sea Scouts for Commissioner Training CED 712

The Sea Scouts for Commissioners training has been updated! The presentation is available for download at SeaScout.org.

This training is intended to be used at Commissioner Colleges and University of Scouting.



BoatUS Free Online Safe Boating Courses



BoatUs has new state approved safe boating courses that are available at BoatUS.org. This is an excellent option for states such as California that have new legal requirements for youth operating boats or adults with youth on the water

Sea Scouts Marketing Materials



The graphic features a blue background with a white anchor logo on the left. To the right of the logo, the text "SEA SCOUTS, BSA RECRUITING FLYERS" is written in white, uppercase letters. Below this, a white text box contains the message: "Plot Your Ship's Next Open House with these Marketing Flyers with customizable fields for date, location, and contact information." On the right side of the graphic, there is an inset photograph showing a hand holding a green pencil, drawing a line on a map with a ruler.

Sea Scout Ships can download customizable flyers from SeaScout.org. These flyers were designed to be submitted to school districts for approval in high school online newsletters. These flyers can also be printed for posting on community boards, such as in coffee shops or teen centers of libraries. Please check the school board section of the district website in your service area for policies and procedures on how youth non-profits can submit flyers for the school newsletters. For tips on submitting flyers to school districts for approval, please see the [West Wind](#) article for best practices.

MOB Drills Overview



Sea Scout Ships should do Man Overboard (MOB) Drills on a regular basis. Vice Commodore Kris Young prepared a "Sea Skills" document on the phases on conducting a MOB Drill available on SeaScout.org. This document can be reviewed with Sea Scouts at a regular meeting before being practiced on the water for Ordinary Requirement 5(d).

The next Sea Skills document will be on how to make an Oscar for your Ship to conduct MOB Drills.

Vice Commodore Young will be contacting Skippers to find out what other program support materials could help their Ships. If you have a request, please let us know.

WR Seabadge in 2018



The Las Vegas Area Council Seabadge Course will be held at the Kimball Scout Reservation, in Mt. Potosi, Las Vegas, Nevada, on August 24-26, 2018. Registration is open at <https://tinyurl.com/SeabadgeLasVegas>

Websites

National Venturing

<http://www.scouting.org/venturing.aspx>

National Sea Scout

<http://www.seascout.org/>

Central Region Venturing

<http://www.crventuring.org>

Northeast Region Venturing

<http://nerventuring-bsa.org/>

Northeast Region Sea Scouting

<https://seascout.org/regions/southern/>

Southern Region-Venturing

<http://srventuring-bsa.org/wordpress/>

Southern Region Sea Scout

<http://srventuring-bsa.org/wordpress/>

Western Region Sea Scouts

<https://wrseascouts.wordpress.com/>

Western Region Venturing

<http://wrventuring.org/>

USA Scouting Service-Venturing

<http://www.usscouts.org/usscouts/venturing/>

UniformingFAQ.asp

www.venturingmag.org

Venturing Magazine

www.venturingmag.org

National Exploring

<http://www.exploring.org/>

Yahoo Groups

Central Region

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/crventuring/>

Northeast Region

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nerventuring/>

Southern Region

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/srventuring/>

Western Region

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wrventuring/>

National

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/venturinglist/>



the FORUM

The FORUM is a National cluster concept and a friendly way to help Scouting Leaders exchange ideas and programs among our Troops, Crews, Ships, Posts, Councils, Areas, Regions and National.

The FORUM is shared by Volunteers and Professionals across the country.

“The **FORUM**” has been published monthly since 2003 and is not an official publication of any Council, Area, Region or National. It is the Leaders and Professionals newsletter. Help support our teenage program by sending the FORUM your stories, Newsletters. Council articles, By-Laws, Questions and Best Practices to share with others.

As always, articles, questions and comments are welcome. Promote Venturing, Sea Scouting and Exploring by promoting your Unit and Council. We are seeking support from anyone interested in working on the newsletter .

Thanks for all you do!

Bob the BEAR Monto—Editor in Chief

Pete Mapes—Associate Editor

Bernie Suess - Webmaster

TO SUBSCRIBE to the FORUM:

Email Bob the BEAR at

rmonto47@gmail.com

Use the email account you want to receive the FORUM and give Full name and Council to place you in the right email list.